

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows.

Claim 1-16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A process for producing an intraorally rapidly disintegrable tablet which comprises granulating a mixture of a water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient and an adsorbent, selected from the group consisting of calcium silicate, light anhydrous silicic acid, synthetic aluminum silicate, silicon dioxide and magnesium metasilicate aluminate to prepare fine granules, mixing the fine granules, D-mannitol and a disintegrator to prepare a material for compression molding wherein the ratio of the fine granules by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 1 to 50% and subjecting the material to compression molding.

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the disintegrator is at least one member selected from the group consisting of crospovidone, low-substituted hydroxypropylcellulose, croscarmellose sodium and carboxymethylcellulose.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the whole or a part of the D-mannitol is a primary particle and the specific surface area of the primary particle is $1.0 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and the average particle size of the primary particles is in the range of 10 to 300 μm .

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient is pravastatin sodium.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the material for compression molding contains a lubricant.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the compression molding is carried out using a compression molding machine in which a lubricant is previously applied on the surface of ~~the~~ punch and ~~the~~ die.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 23, wherein the lubricant is at least one member selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, stearic acid, stearyl alcohol, sodium stearyl fumarate, sucrose fatty acid ester and talc.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the material for compression molding contains at least one member selected from the group consisting of flavoring agents, sweeteners, perfumes, coloring agents, stabilizers, fluidizing agents, anti-oxidants and co-solubilizers.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the compounding ratio of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient to the adsorbent in the fine granules is 1:10 to 10:1.

Claim 28 (Canceled)

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the amount ratio of the D-mannitol by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 20 to 99% by weight.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the amount ratio of the disintegrator by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 0.5 to 30% by weight.

Claim 31-76 (Canceled)

Claim 77. (New) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the whole or a part of the D-mannitol is a primary particle and the specific surface area of the primary particle is $1.0 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and the average particle size of the primary particles is in the range of 10 to 300 μm .

Claim 78. (New) The process as claimed in claim 19 wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.

Claim 79. (New) The process as claimed in claim 77, wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.